



MARCH 2024
March 1-31

**SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE
AND OUR LADY OF LOURDES
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

WELCOME TO OUR *Parish Community*

PASTORAL STAFF

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Maintenance & Facilities

SERGIO CIENFUEGOS

MARIA PATINO

AMALIO SANTIAGO



Our Two Places of Worship

PARISH CHURCH
SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE
4220 N. Sheridan Road,
Chicago, IL 60613



CHAPEL
OUR LADY OF LOURDES
4640 N. Ashland Ave.,
Chicago, IL 60640

MASS TIMES

SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Vigil
4:30 PM - English
Sunday
8:30 AM - English
10:30 AM - English
12:30 PM - Spanish

DAILY MASSES

Monday - Saturday
9:00 AM - English

RECONCILIATION

Thursdays - 7:00 PM
Saturdays - 9:30 AM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thursdays - 7:00 PM

PRIVATE PRAYER ST. GABRIEL CHAPEL

Monday - Friday
9:30 AM - 7:30 PM

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

WEEKEND MASSES

Sunday
9:00 AM - English
11:00 AM - Spanish

ADORATION & PRIVATE PRAYER

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays
Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto
8:30 AM - 8:00 PM

PARISH OFFICE

Saint Mary of the Lake
4220 N. Sheridan Rd, Chicago, IL 60613
(773) 280-7700
office@saintmarys.org

Monday - Friday | 9:00am - 8:00pm
Saturdays & Sundays | 9:00am - 2:00pm

A MESSAGE FROM *Father Vince*

CATHOLICS AND THE BIBLE

“Why don’t Catholics read the Bible?” This is a question I have heard, and perhaps you have as well, especially from some of our fundamentalist Protestant neighbors.

I usually answer that question in a couple of ways. One of the first things I can say (and you can as well, if asked), is that Catholics may not read the Bible all that much, but they certainly hear a great deal of the Bible. Our Sunday Readings follow a three-year cycle and the Readings at our weekday liturgies follow a two-year cycle. If someone attends Mass every day for three years, that individual will hear a rather significant portion of the sacred books.

Secondly, most of our Protestant friends believe that the Bible is the only source of divine revelation. In fact, “Scripture alone” (*sola Scriptura* – in Latin) was one of the battle cries of the sixteenth century Protestant Reformation and has remained a significant doctrine in most Protestant traditions even to this day. We Catholics believe that the ongoing living Tradition of the Church, like the Bible, is also a gift from God. Tradition (with a capital “T”) assists us in unpacking and understanding all that God has revealed. We believe that Scripture and Tradition are like two fountains nourished from the same divine stream. We likewise have a concern that studying the Bible, without the assistance of the Church’s Tradition, could easily lead someone into theological error. This is one of the major reasons we Catholics were slow to encourage our members to read the Bible on their own.

Although we maintain the Bible is important, I think it is also important to recall that the Church existed before many of these books were defined as divinely inspired. The Church decided what books were included in the Bible and which ones were not. Several other important religious books, of both Jewish and Christian origin, were very significant for quite some time and may have been considered to be divinely inspired in some circles (like the III and IV Maccabees or Protoevangelium of James), but they did not “make the cut” and were not considered part of the Catholic Scriptures.

Finally, I believe we should recall that God’s ultimate revelation is not a book, or a series of books, it is a person – Jesus of Nazareth. Important as the Scriptures are, it is Jesus who is the jewel in the crown of God’s plan of self-revelation.



FR. VINCE COSTELLO
Resident Priest

I want to say a few words about how to go about studying the Bible. Some folks believe that anyone can pick up the Sacred Scriptures and should be able to determine their meaning. In some regards I think this is true. For example, I suspect almost anyone can understand the implications of the Good Samaritan parable.

However, I would like to make the case that understanding the Bible is a very complicated enterprise. The books which became the Bible were composed by a number of writers over a period of at least a thousand years. Although inspired by the Holy Spirit, each author wrote from their own personal perspective, and each was influenced and limited by their own time and culture. This is why I think anyone wishing to study the Bible, which is a noble enterprise, should do so with a little help. Sometimes someone will ask me which is the best version of the Bible they should purchase. I usually suggest The Catholic Bible – Personal Study Edition. The translation which is used is the New American Bible, but the Personal Study Edition has hundreds of pages of commentary from highly regarded scholars which will be most helpful for the neophyte’s understanding of the Sacred Scriptures which are so important to us.

St. Jerome is considered to be the one who coined the phrase “Ignorance of the Scripture is ignorance of Christ.” He was right. If you wish to study the Bible, go to it, but please make certain you have some guidance along the way.

Fr. Vince Costello, *Retired Resident*

LET US PRAY *Together*

MASS INTENTIONS

To request a Mass Intention in memory of a deceased loved one, for someone who is sick or for general prayers please call the parish office. Note that these requests will be mentioned in the Mass time you request and published in our monthly bulletin. Please contact the office one week in advance to request an intention. The suggested donation is \$15 per intention.

Please note that any mass intentions received after the 15th OF THE MONTH will not be published in the bulletin, however it will still be prayed for at mass.

SICK LIST

If you would like to add a family member or friend to our general Prayer List for the Sick, please contact the parish office and provide the name. These names will be published in our monthly bulletin and weekly newsletters so that our community can pray for them. There is no donation requested for these requests.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK

Marcela Rodriguez, Hector De León, Griffin Marks, Rod Reyes, Maria Estela Alvarez, Austreberta Escobar, Adolfo Ruiz Baca, Melissa Velazquez, Molly Morris, Alfredo Pinon, Rose Mueller, Michael Snyder, Angela Bates, Angelica Luviano, Lauren Troy, Jack Denihan, Maria Pardo, Rachel Hohner, Angela Turley, Mary Pilarczyk, William Himmelmann, Marilyn Trant, Vivian Morales, John Okeeffe, Benjamin Blanco, Elvira Blanco, Kenneth Towers, Rosabella Payomo, Antonio Alcantara, Joe Klochan, Sue Leach, Jeff McBride, Judy LeDuc, Frank Walsh, Mario Ronchetti, Daniel Ronchetti, Patrick Bentley, Joe Camerlengo and for all our sick parishioners and those who are in nursing homes.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

The following are prayer requests we have received from the Saint Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes community. Please keep them in your prayers.

Deceased

† Anne Costello
† Consuelo Luna Segura
† Alberto Ayala
† Maximiliano Sánchez Tello
† Fernando de Oliveira
† Santa Rocha
† Nala Gray
† Richard Fox
† Rev L. Dudley Day, O.S.A
† Josefa Perez Garcia
† Freddy Subia
† Gustavo Tomala
† Antonio Tomala
† Olga Guevara
† Manuel Urquiza
† Lucy Albaneze
† Carlos E. Rocha
† Bess Heal Van Derbeck
† Hector Sanchez
† Marianna Collins
† Jack McLeod
† Victorina Hernández Morales
† Joan P. Gagni
† Jesus Martinez
† Adrian Unsuetta
† Maria Gloria Ipiña
† Jorge Ipiña
† Cristobal Ipiña
† Zoila Maritza Ipiña
† All Souls in Purgatory

Special Prayers

Iker Garcia Arevalo
Stephany Mleczek
Nanette Suyosa

Health

Patrick Bentley
Joe Camerlengo



For the members of our parish community who have recently passed away.

† Aura Rizzo
† Mela Alvezo Roque
† Jose Luis Rodarte
† Abel Rosendo
† Philip Zachary Silva
† Gonzalo Navarrete
† Adan Juanes

SERVANT *Leadership*

NEW PARISH PASTORAL AND FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIRS APPOINTED

This past January, our pastor, Fr. Manny, appointed three parishioners to lead of our newly formed Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Council. Please take a moment to read about each of them below and congratulate them on their appointment! Thank you Terese, Dan and John for your “yes” to serving our parish community.



TERESE HERBIG, Parish Pastoral Council Chair

I joined Saint Mary of the Lake as a parishioner in 2019 at a time in my life when it would have been easiest to isolate myself due to the loss of my daughter and then the sudden onset of the global pandemic. Instead, I was encouraged by Father Manny and inspired by the energy and kindness of my fellow parishioners to share the gift of my time with our community. I jumped right in as a volunteer during the pandemic by serving on the calls for support, food distribution committee, the Candle Lighting for souls lost to Covid, and reopening the Church.

I have been a leader on the Welcoming Committee since 2020. You will see me at 10:30 Sunday mass greeting our parishioners at the door! It is a special blessing to me to provide a heartfelt welcome to everyone and share a smile to foster a sense of unity and community. I was invited to join the Parish Council in 2021 and have harnessed my professional training of engaging diverse teams, developing strategy, and focusing on execution to support the needs of the Parish during a time of intense change.

The Parish Pastoral Council supports the mission of the parish and the work of the pastor by giving members of the parish community a voice and empowering our parishioners to lead and make positive contributions to our parish and community. As Chair of the Parish Council, I endeavor to uphold the mission of our parish and extend an invitation to each of you to join with me in prayer and dedicated service as we strive to enrich our shared spiritual journey and foster a vibrant, inclusive community.

DAN WARYCK, Parish Pastoral Council Vice Chair

I've been a parishioner of Saint Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes for the past 3 years. I became a member of Parish Pastoral Council in 2021. I am excited about my new role as Vice Chair to help advance our Council objectives by embracing our existing ministries and to help create new programs. I am Soup kitchen volunteer and attend Bible studies led by Fr. Vince.

I joined the Parish at a time when I needed guidance and spiritual nurturing. Father Manny introduced me to Saint Mary of the Lake Parish during my healing process and as a result, serving this Parish and community became my spiritual mission. The Parish provides me with opportunity to share my faith and support others who are seeking ways to develop a deeper relationship with God and our surrounding community.

Our Parish is very special, given our diverse demographics and make-up of our ministries. We welcome all and come together to pray and support each other as one community of faith. My hope is for our Parish to continue to grow and evolve, by attracting new followers of Christ by our outreach of ministries and demonstration of God's love for all.



JOHN HENDRICKSON, Parish Finance Council Chair

My name is John Hendrickson. My wife (Heather), daughter (Norah – 19), son (Nathan – 16), and I moved to Chicago from Detroit in 2018 because of my work in commercial real estate. We immediately joined Saint Mary's since it was a short walk from our house and because we loved how diverse and welcoming the parish community is. I'm excited because I believe that the merger of Saint Mary's and Our Lady of Lourdes enhances everything good about the parish. Saint Mary's has been an important part of the Uptown neighborhood for more than a century. My hope is we can further strengthen the parish to continue its mission to both serve the spiritual needs of the parishioners will also aiding the poor of the community for at least another century.

DISCIPLE MAKER INDEX SURVEY RESULTS

Last year (Lent 2023), our parish participated in a 75-question survey administered by the Catholic Leadership Institute. The purpose of this survey was to give us a deeper perspective on our parishioners’ individual spiritual growth and engagement with our parish. **THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the survey!**

We received a tremendous amount of data! This report provides some highlights of our strengths as a parish, as well as opportunities for growth. The Survey Committee is committed to working with our Parish Staff and Leadership Councils as we seek to form disciples who serve the needs of our parish and the wider community. We hope you will join us!

DEMOGRAPHICS OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS

454 total surveys completed, representing the wide diversity of our parish!

Gender		Ethnicity/Race		Marital Status		Age		# Years Parishioner	
Female	62%	Caucasian	48%	Single	43%	18-35	21%	2 or less	32%
Male	38%	Hispanic	40%	Married	42%	36-55	31%	3-5	17%
		Black	4%	Divorced	10%	56-75	39%	6-10	13%
		Asian	4%	Widowed	5%	76+	9%	11-20	14%
		Other	4%					20+	23%

STRENGTHS

Several areas rose to the top of the survey for our parish in the areas of Leadership, a strong belief in foundational Catholic teachings, the Sunday experience, the engagement of the Latino community, and individual Spiritual Practices.

Endorsement of Parish/Pastor *		Strong Belief in Catholic Teaching*		Sunday Experience*	
Recommend the Parish to a friend	93%	Jesus died and rose again	92%	Feeling welcome and accepted	89%
Recommend the Pastor to a friend	88%	Eucharist is the body and blood of Christ	90%	Vibrant and engaging Sunday mass	89%
		Scripture is the word of God	86%	Preaching that connects my faith to my everyday life	89%

(*percentages represent responses of ‘Strongly Agree’ + ‘Agree’)

Community Engagement for Latino Community:

Across many survey questions, we noticed stronger scores among the Latino community. We are grateful for our bi-lingual priests, sisters, and staff, and the strength of lay-leadership among our Spanish speaking community. This was especially noticeable in areas such as:

- I feel welcomed and accepted – 91% (2 points higher than parish average)
- Recommend staff – 86% (10 points higher than parish average)
- Recommend other priests – 87% (2 points higher than parish average)
- Follow-up on involvement – 80% (16 points higher than parish average)
- My parish supports me in times of need – 79% (11 points higher than parish average)

Enthusiasm for the Spiritual Journey:

Overall, our parishioners report great enthusiasm for the spiritual journey. We received strong responses in categories that asked about the individual faith journey – such as how our parish helps them grow spiritually, whether the Church is critical to their relationship with God, and how our parish is forming them as a disciple – and yet, we still have room to grow in all of these areas. The following chart show frequency of mass attendance, personal prayer, and pace of spiritual growth:

Mass Attendance		Individual Prayer Time		Pace of Spiritual Growth	
Daily	11%	Daily	59%	I am in a period of rapid spiritual growth	7%
Weekly	76%	Weekly	22%	I am growing spiritually at a steady pace	34%
Monthly	7%	Monthly	7%	I would like to grow more than I am	41%
Quarterly	3%	Quarterly	2%	I am content staying where I am	10%

OPPORTUNITIES

Over the past several months, the Survey Committee and Parish staff have been meeting to analyze the survey results and develop recommendations. We are especially interested in identifying areas where we can make a concerted effort that will have a substantial and lasting impact on people’s spiritual growth and engagement with the church. Below are our initial recommendations:

Recommendation #1 – Become a Welcoming & Inviting Community:

Recognizing that nearly half of our parishioners have been attending SML/OLL for less than 5 years, we need to be intentional about welcoming people, helping newcomers find information, and connecting people with ways to get involved with our ministries and community. The Parish Council is already exploring ideas such as a Welcome Kit, a New Parishioner Dinner, and website updates.

Recommendation #2 – Invest in Initiatives that Promote Spiritual Formation:

We know there is fertile soil to help people develop as disciples, with over half of respondents already growing or desiring to grow more in their faith. We are considering additional opportunities for retreats, speaker series, formation for liturgical ministers, and faith sharing groups. Examples include the recent information sessions for Eucharistic ministers and the upcoming Lenten Parish Mission!

Recommendation #3 – Follow-up on Parishioners’ Interest in Getting Involved:

A significant area of improvement is the need for follow-up when parishioners express interest in getting involved with our parish. This was noted in both the survey results and through anecdotal stories shared among the Survey Committee, and it was a consistent need across all demographic groups.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

The Parish Council is currently making plans to act on each of the recommendations above! Do you want to join us in making our parish more welcoming and spiritually enriching, while growing as a missionary disciple? Please contact the parish office or one of the committee members – Survey Committee: Beth Knobbe bethknobbe139@gmail.com or Eduardo Rodas guayorodas@hotmail.com. Parish Council Chairs: Terese Herbig terescherbig@gmail.com or Dan Waryck dewaryck@gmail.com.

FAITH *and* Community



WELCOME THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

We gladly welcome the following children into the family of God and into the faith community of Saint Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes, who were baptized during the **month of February**. Please pray for them and their families.

Rowan Bah

WELCOME OUR NEW PARISHIONERS

A warm welcome to our newly registered parishioners of our parish community! The following persons and families registered this past month! Welcome to Saint Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes!

*Dina Facklis
Isabel Avila
Abigail & Donald Hultquist
Deidre Nestor
Patrick Fitzgerald
Lea & Todd Krystof
Alexandria Vernasco
Rosemary Adams
Mark Tancredi & Kristen Moser
Lisa Nguyen
James Vezina
Grizel Roman
Jose Escobedo*

PRAY FOR OUR ELECT, WHO ARE PREPARING TO RECEIVE THE WATERS OF BAPTISM AT EASTER

Please continue to pray for our now **ELECT** who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, March 30, 2024.

*Nat Wong
Anny Aguirre Palacios
D'Angelo Coraizaca
Amy Coyago
Jaylah Arizbeth Narvaez Chanalata
Hilary Yajaira Rosas-Velazquez*



BECOMING CATHOLIC

Are you interested in joining the Catholic Church or learning more about being Catholic and completing the Sacraments of Initiation?

For more info please contact our pastoral associate, Marc Vega at mvega@saintmarys.org

LITURGY and Prayer

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays in Lent
(Saint Mary of the Lake Church)

9:30am English
6:30pm Bilingual

LENTEN MISSION 2024

Love, Burn Bright: An Exploration of Catholic Social Teaching

Sundays, March 3 and 10
3:00-4:30 PM
Parish Office (Saint Mary of the Lake)

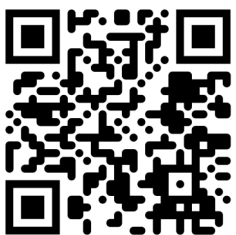
LOVE, BURN BRIGHT

A Musical Journey Through Catholic Social Teaching

Tuesday, March 19
Saint Mary of the Lake
7:00 PM

Christian Charity is a focal point to Lenten journey. We invite you to gather with members of our parish community and music ministry program as we explore the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Through Scripture, hymnody, and prayer, we will reflect on how we are called to treat our brothers and sisters in the world.

For more info on our Lenten programming please visit www.saintmarys.org/lent or scan the QR code below.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY *March 24, 2024*

SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE *Mass Schedule*

4:30pm Saturday Vigil, 8:30am, 10:30am (*English*), and 12:30pm (*Spanish*)

OUR LADY OF LOURDES *Mass Schedule*

9:00am (*English*) and 11:00am (*Spanish*)

HOLY THURSDAY *March 28, 2024*

SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE

9:00am • Morning Prayer (*English*)

7:30pm • Mass of the Lord's Supper (*English*)

11:15pm • Scripture & Song Reflection and Night Prayer (*English*)

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

7:30pm • Mass of the Lord's Supper (*Spanish*)

Saint Mary of the Lake Church and the Grotto at Our Lady of Lourdes will be open until midnight for adoration.

GOOD FRIDAY *March 29, 2024*

SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE

9:00am • Morning Prayer (*English*)

11:00am • Living Way of the Cross (*Spanish*)

3:00pm • Stations of the Cross (*English*)

7:30pm • Liturgy of the Good Friday of the Lord's Passion (*English*)

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

7:30pm • Liturgy of the Good Friday of the Lord's Passion (*Spanish*)

HOLY SATURDAY *March 30, 2024*

SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE

9:00am • Morning Prayer with Blessing of Easter Baskets (*English*)

8:30pm • Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter (*Bilingual*)

EASTER SUNDAY *March 31, 2024*

SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE *Mass Schedule*

8:30am, 10:30am (*English*) and 12:30pm (*Spanish*)

OUR LADY OF LOURDES *Mass Schedule*

9:00am (*English*) and 11:00am (*Spanish*)

WWW.SAINTMARYS.ORG



SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE
AND OUR LADY OF LOURDES
CATHOLIC CHURCH

MINISTRY *Events*

NAVIGATING DIVORCE MINISTRY

The Navigating Divorce ministry is offered each Sunday from 9:15-10:15 AM in-person in the Parish Office. This ministry consists of confidential small group discussion and sharing for any woman or man experiencing the various stages of grief which accompany the overall divorce process as it moves toward Roman Catholic healing objectives. Questions can be directed to Dr. Milt Kobus, at drmkobus@gmail.com.

THE COMMUNITY OF SANT'EGIDIO

The Community of Sant'Egidio is a movement of lay people dedicated to communicating and living out the Gospel through prayer, solidarity with the poor and service to peace. It was born among high school students in Rome in 1968, in the period following the Second Vatican Council and today is present in Rome, the rest of Italy, and in seventy other countries throughout the world. This ministry meets regularly on Monday nights at 6:30pm in the St. Gabriel Chapel in the parish office. **For more info please contact Krysten McOsker at krystenmcosker@gmail.com**



YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Join the Young Adults Community! The Young Adults of St. Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes are a vibrant, inclusive group of parishioners, ages 21-39, dedicated to living and growing in our Catholic faith.

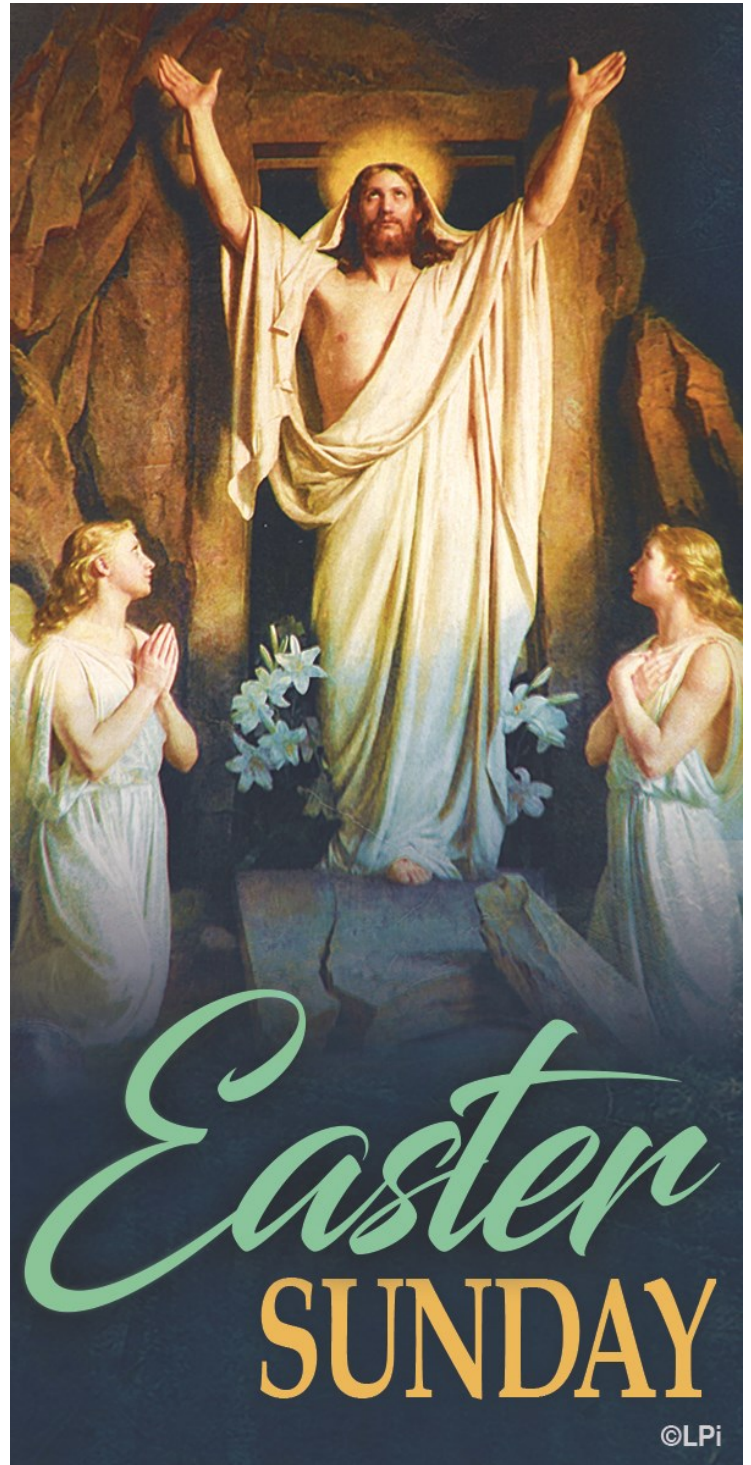
For more info or questions contact YoungAdults@saintmarys.org

Scan the QR code to be added to the email list and learn more about the upcoming events.



LITURGICAL MINISTRY

Consider serving in one of our liturgical ministries as a Lector, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Altar Server, Sacristan, Greeter or Usher. We are in need of more people to help with our Sunday liturgies. Training and formation is available to prepare you to serve in these roles. If you are interested in learning more about these ministries please contact Gabriel Mayhugh at gmayhugh@saintmarys.org.



TIME • TALENT • TREASURE



Stewardship

A WAY OF LIVING

SUNDAY COLLECTION FEBRUARY 2024	FEBRUARY 3-4	FEBRUARY 10-11	FEBRUARY 17-18	FEBRUARY 24-25
Total (In-Pew)	\$7,901.44	\$9,173.02	\$7,752.91	\$7,931.18
Total (Online)	\$4,911.00	\$2,739.00	\$2,557.00	\$2,990.00
WEEKEND TOTAL	\$12,812.44	\$11,912.02	\$10,309.91	\$10,921.18
TOTAL WEEKEND MASS ATTENDANCE	1,362	1,466	1,394	1,362

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF
OUR MISSION AND PARISH!**

FEBRUARY 2024
TOTAL SUNDAY GIVING
\$45,955.55

(JANUARY 2024 - \$42,479.43)

AVERAGE WEEKEND MASS ATTENDANCE
IN FEBRUARY 2024
1,396 people

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY
DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY!**

ASH WEDNESDAY
\$3,835.64

**CHURCH IN CENTRAL AND
EASTERN EUROPE**
\$534.37

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**MARCH 29, 2024
PONTIFICAL GOOD FRIDAY
COLLECTION**

JANUARY 2024 REPORT

Due to an early submission deadline we were unable to share the complete financial and attendance reports for January 2024. Below is a brief report.

Total In-Pew — \$29,714.43

Total Online — \$12,765.00

GRAND TOTAL — \$42,479.43

Church in Latin America—Second Collection

\$2,196.00

Average Weekend Attendance

1,233 people

